Assistance to A.P. for controlling Animal diseases

5143. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central assistance is being provided to Andhra Pradesh for control of animal diseases in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) how the State is controlling the animal diseases with the names of agencies etc., if any associated with it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) For controlling animal diseases grants-in-aid of Rs. 40.18 lakh, Rs.45.27 lakh and Rs.57.47 lakh have been provided to Andhra Pradesh during the last three years *i.e.*, 2000-2001, 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 respectively.

(c) The Animal Husbandry Department of the Government of Andhra Pradesh is controlling the animal diseases by utilizing the funds released by the Central Government.

Assistance for Senile Cashew Plantation in Andhra Pradesh

5144. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Assistance has been provided to Andhra Pradesh for replanting of Senile Cashew Plantations with improved high yielding varieties;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years, year-wise;

(c) the total area of Senile Cashew Plantations in the State which have been replanted with improved varieties, so far; and

(d) whether any target has been set for this year, in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) Assistance is being provided to the State Governments including Andhra Pradesh under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Macro Management in Agriculture -Supplementation/ Complementation of State Efforts through Work Plans for various activities including development of Cashew. Under this Scheme, the State Governments can prioritize their activities as per their felt needs and requirements. The Government of Andhra Pradesh did not take up any programme for replanting of Senile Cashew Plantation in the State during 2000-01 and 2001-02. An outlay of Rs.27.30 lakhs was earmarked in the Work Plan of 2002-03 for replanting of Senile Cashew plantations.

(c) Replanting of Senile Cashew Plantations have not been taken up by the Government of Andhra Pradesh so far.

(d) No target has been fixed for replanting of Senile Cashew Plantation in Andhra Pradesh during the current financial year 2003-04.

National Livestok Policy

5145. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE :
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have drawn up a National Livestock Policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the new policy makes adequate provision for generating employment opportunities in the agricultural sectors and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what steps are being contemplated to secure greater budgetary allocation during the Tenth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) No, Sir. However, a draft National Livestock Policy has been drawn up.

(b) and (c) National Livestock Policy is being formulated to attain qualitative and /quantitative improvement in livestock, livestock products, feed and fodder resources, and also to have a better interface between modern technologies regarding breeding, nutrition and health care through various management interventions and Animal Husbandry Extension Programme, to guide the future policies and programmes which will result in additional employment opportunity.

(d) New Schemes namely Foot and Mouth Disease Control Programme, Poultry/Dairy Venture Capital Funds, Strengthening of Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production and Strengthening of Database Information Net Working are being taken up during 10th Plan Period. The 9th Plan allocation of Rs. 1682.95 crore has been enhanced to Rs.2500/- crore in 10th Plan.

Investment on R and D in Agriculture

5146. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO :
SHRI RUMANDLA RAAMACHANDRAYYA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to invest more on research and development in agriculture to reduce import bill of edible oils; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard?